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Information Technology and Communication Services (ITACS)

ITACS Technology News

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2004-12

# NPS Information Technology and Communications Services (ITACS) Technology News December 2004

Monterey, California ; Naval Postgraduate School

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# ITACS

## Information Technology and Communications Services

Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, California

### Technology News

### December 2004

#### TAC Hours Extended

The Technology Assistance Center is now open to serve computer users from 0730 to 1700 Monday through Friday. The expanded hours began on 29 November.

#### Spam Update

Spam, once merely a nuisance that clogged in-boxes, has evolved into a tool for criminals intent on stealing credit card numbers or launching viruses. Last May ITACS installed the Barracuda Spam Firewall, which blocks an average 15K incoming messages every day, but industry executives agree that spam can never be fully eradicated by commercial tools. User awareness is still the best tool – don't open e-mail or attachments you weren't expecting; don't click on links from pop-up ads; don't use your official government e-mail address for online shopping or game sites. Be careful about how you share information online and what you download. Spam is everybody's responsibility.

#### December Maintenance

The winter break is traditionally the time for updating servers and software, since downtime is less disruptive for the School when no classes are scheduled. Please watch for announcements on the NPS intranet about scheduled outages and upgrades.

#### Computer Account Expiration

IT privileges on NPS networks are governed by input from PYTHON. Expiration of privileges and deletion of computer accounts is tied to the Estimated Departure Date in your personal record, which should match the expiration date on your CAC card. Please monitor the accuracy and currency of your PYTHON data, and notify the TAC at 656-1046 if personal information is incorrect.

#### IT Ethics

A code of ethical principles for information technology is being drafted by ITACS. Briefings about ethical use of computers will be available by request.

#### Digitization Committee

**Joe LoPiccolo** is representing ITACS on the Admiral's Digitization Committee, which is exploring ways to reduce paper usage at NPS.

#### Education and Research Network (ERN) Status

Training is underway for Storage Area Network (SAN) and server clustering for Exchange, in preparation for the phased migration of ITACS e-mail accounts to ERN .edu servers over the winter quarter. After testing, other e-mail accounts will be transitioned to ERN. The SAN unit will support 16 Terabytes of data, with 6T mirrored for reliability and disaster recovery, and 4T reserved for low speed applications.

#### IT Task Force

**Dr. Doug Brinkley** is heading the IT Task Force's Subcommittee on E-mail Protocols.

#### Joint Effort – STAN and Monterey County

**Virgil Schwab**, Director of Information Technology for Monterey County, has given permission to attach antennae to county radio towers to facilitate [STAN](#) (Surveillance and Tactical Acquisition Network) experiments.

#### Identity Protection Management

**Dr. Christine Cermak** coordinated the NPS response to **DoN CIO Dave Wennergren's** request for comments on his draft vision document for identity protection management.

#### DoDNet

The memorandum of understanding for support of DoDNet, the joint project that connects Peninsula national defense organizations via a high-speed optical network, will be signed 21 December in the NPS President's conference room. **Robert Brandewie** of DMDC, **COL Michael R. Simone** of DLIFLC, **CAPT David Titley** of FNMOC, **Dr. Simon Chang** of NRL Monterey, and **RDML Patrick Dunne** of NPS are the signatories.